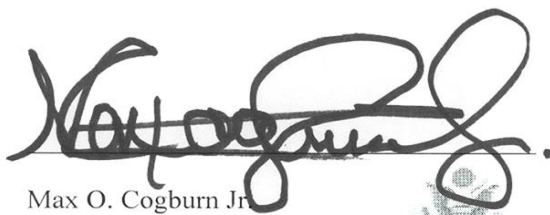


ruling in Astrue v. Ratliff, 130 S. Ct. 2521 (2010), these attorney's fees are payable to Plaintiff as the prevailing party, and are subject to offset through the Treasury Department's Offset Program to satisfy any pre-existing debt Plaintiff may owe to the government. If, subsequent to the entry of the Court's EAJA Order, the Commissioner determines that Plaintiff owes no debt to the government that would subject this award of attorney fees to offset, the Commissioner may honor Plaintiff's signed assignment of EAJA fees providing for payment of the subject fees to Plaintiff's counsel rather than to Plaintiff, which Plaintiff states will be provided to the Commissioner no later than March 24, 2016. If, however, the Commissioner discovers that Plaintiff owes the government any debt subject to offset, the Commissioner shall pay any attorney fees remaining after such offset to Plaintiff, rather than to counsel.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the court approves the parties' request that the EAJA award be paid to Plaintiff in care of his counsel and mailed to Robert J. Lopez, Hyler & Lopez, P.A., 38 Orange Street, Asheville, NC 28801.

Signed: March 18, 2016



Max O. Cogburn Jr.
United States District Judge